PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OUTSTANDING FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Kindly amend the application as follows:

In the Specification

For the paragraphs found on pages 7-15 of the amended specification submitted in the Amendment filed on December 12, 2001, please substitute the attached paragraphs which are marked as pages 7-18. One clean set of pages and one marked set of pages is provided herewith. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added.

In the Drawings

Please substitute new Figs. 1 and 2a for Figs. 1 and 2a submitted in the Amendment filed on December 12, 2001. One set of marked (in red) drawings and one set of clean substitute drawing is provided herewith. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been added.

In the Claims

Please cancel claim 22, without prejudice or disclaimer to pursue such subject matter in a continuation application.